# BABY & Me

## Chapter 53

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WELL
UM.
WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?
WELL?
NO, I DON'T
DON'T YOU HAVE THAT BACK-WARDS?
Will you for-give me?
WILL YOU COME WITH ME TO MY CLASS REUNION?
AT LEAST THINK ABOUT IT!
You rat
NO WAY.
WELL, I REALIZED THERE WAS NO REASON FOR US TO BE SO.. HOTHEADED.
I SURREN-DER.
DON'T YOU KNOW? IT'S A WHITE FLAG.
WHY'D YOU CALL ME OVER?
WELL?
BUT, SINCE YOU SURRENDER, I GUESS I CAN FORGIVE YOU
I'M NOT HOT-HEAD-ED
RIGHT, I FORGIVE YOU SO PLEASE DO ME A FAVOR.
WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN?





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WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THIS YESTERDAY?!
IT'S THE OTHER WAY AROUND
TOMP TOMP
TOMOKO, WERE YOU REALLY IN LOVE WITH HIM?!
BUT...YOU NEVER EVEN MENTIONED HIM BEFORE!!
TOMP
TOMP

I WANT TO MAKE UP, BUT I GUESS I'M JUST TOO STUBBORN.
I GUESS I'LL BE STAYING AT HARUMI'S AGAIN TONIGHT.
WHATEVER, TOMOKO IF THIS IS YOUR IDEA OF COMPROMISING...
ZIG ZAG
WHY SHOULD I GO?
I WON'T KNOW ANYBODY.
WHAT'S THERE TO THINK ABOUT?!

NIIMURA. HE'S SO HANDSOME AND CHARMING
YOUR FIRST LOVE?
MAYBE I'LL SEE MY FIRST LOVE THERE! AND MAYBE WE'LL DECIDE TO RUN AWAY TOGETHER!!
SIGH
I'm Shi-nobu Nii-mura!
Hello!
THE GUY I MET YESTERDAY?
NIIMURA?



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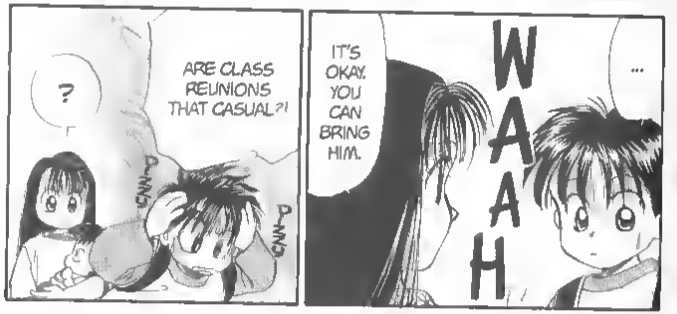


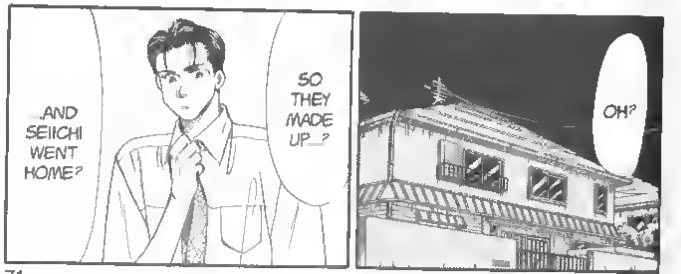

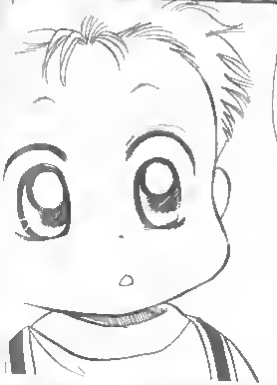


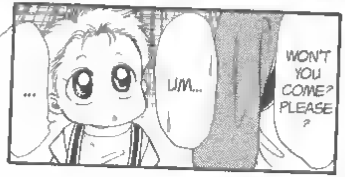




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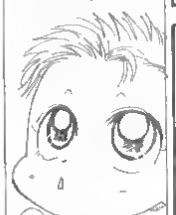
Author's Note Part 3

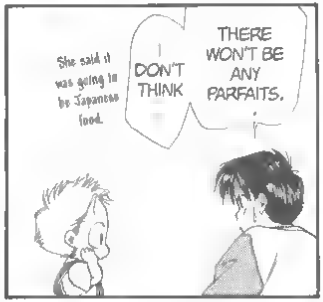
One day, I noticed my brother hadn't shaved, so I told him to just let it grow. I was hoping he'd grow a big thick beard like you see in foreign movies, but my brother's beard was very sparse. It looked like a worm-eaten lawn. Then our sister said, "That looks disgusting. Shave it off!" I wonder if my brother was hurt by her words. Being a woman, I don't know.

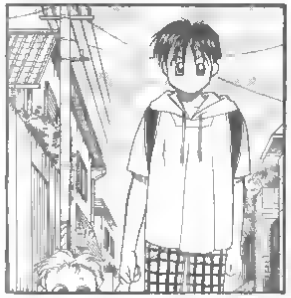
A quick lesson in Minoru-Speak




"Th" becomes either "d," "z," or sometimes "t." Oddly "s" sometimes becomes "th." "R" becomes "w." Leave out articles as desired.

TRUE, BUT IT'S TOMOKO'S TREAT, RIGHT? WHY NOT GO?
You'll get to eat for free.
BUT IT'S WEIRD FOR MINORU AND ME TO GO TO HER CLASS REUNION.



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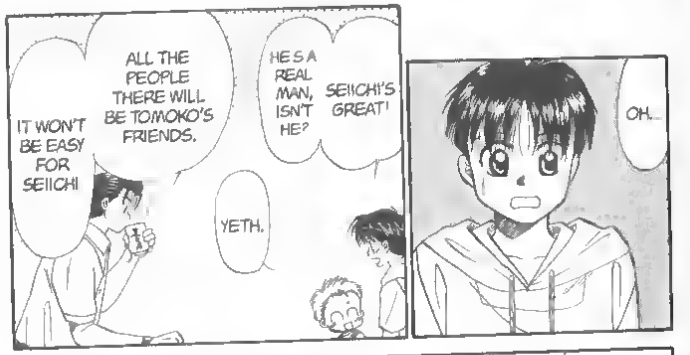
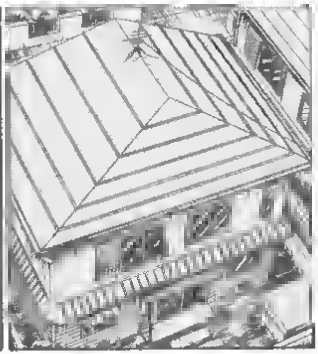


WE TOLD YOU THAT WEEKS AGO.
WE'RE GOING ON A TRIP TO A HOT SPRINGS RESORT WITH SOME FRIENDS
WHY NOT?
TOMOR-ROW?
WE CAN'T TAKE CARE OF TAICHI TOMOR-ROW.





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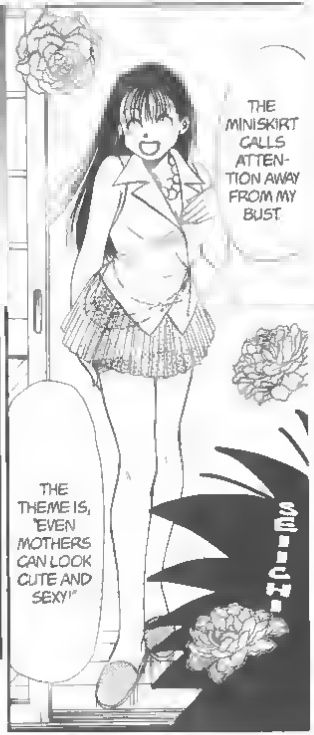
TOMOKO, IF YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLE FINDING SOMETHING TO WEAR, I CAN LEND YOU SOME-THING..
ABSOLUTELY NOT!! I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO DRESS LIKE THAT!!
OUCH...
WHAT WAS THAT FOR?
Granny's hand



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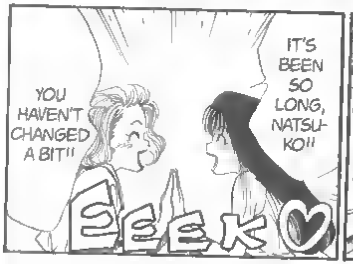


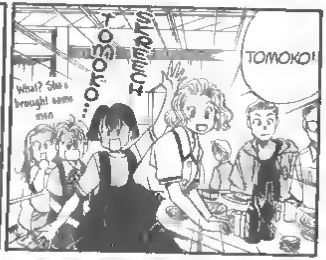


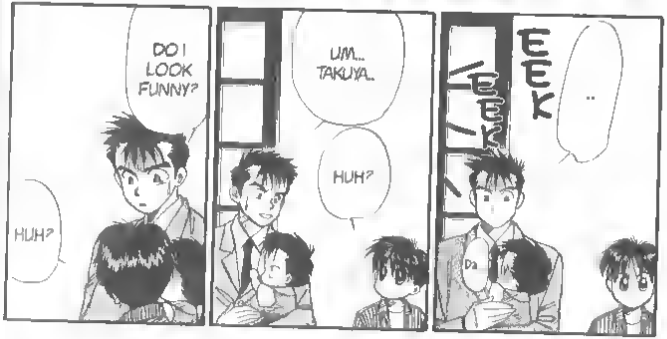




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WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?
WUNN
WUNN
WUNN
...
...
MR. NIIMURA DIDN'T KNOW THAT TOMOKO WAS MARRIED?
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE HE'S A LITTLE SLOW.
BUT DIDN'T HE WONDER WHO YOU WERE?
LOOKS THAT WAY.
HE LOOKS A LITTLE SCARY.
I WONDER IF HE'S ANGRY.
OH.
SIGH
WOW...
IS THAT YOUR KID?
YES.
I-IT'S JUST THAT... I THOUGHT YOU TWO WERE JUST FRIENDS.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
WHAT A LAUGH
HEE HEE
YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
BUT YOU MADE SUCH A FUSS WHEN I INSISTED ON COMING.
AND THERE ARE LOTS OF RANDOM PEOPLE HERE.
NO, I DIDN'T ..
KAKAKAK
I CAME TO SEE THE GIRL SHINOBU LIKED, AND SHE'S MARRIED.







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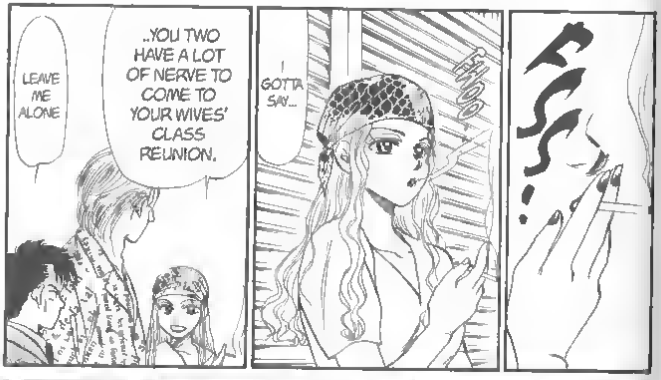


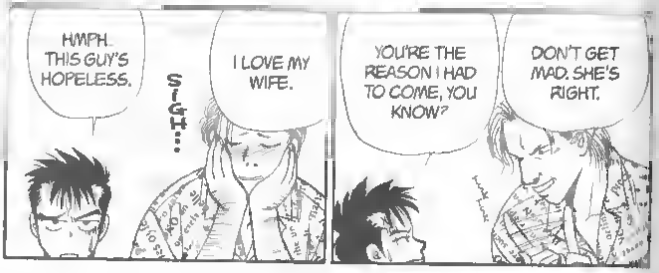


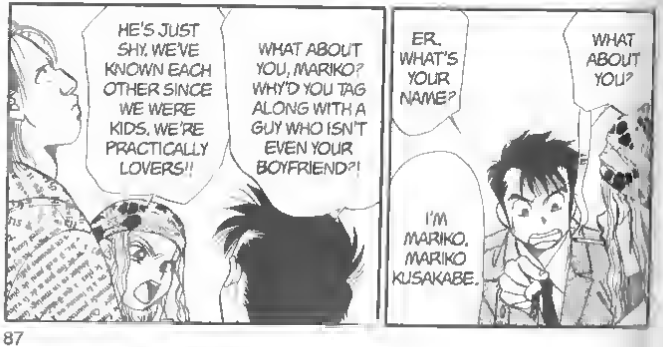
HE'S JUST SHY. WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE WE WERE KIDS. WE'RE PRACTICALLY LOVERS!!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, MARIKO? WHY'D YOU TAG ALONG WITH A GUY WHO ISN'T EVEN YOUR BOYFRIEND?!
ER. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I'M MARIKO. MARIKO KUSAKABE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

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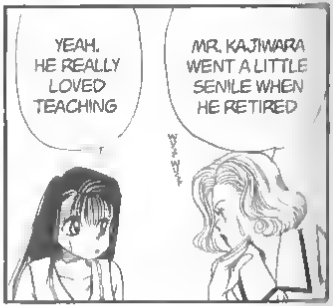

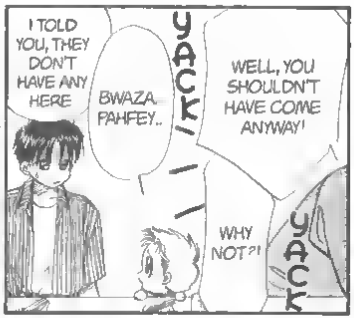

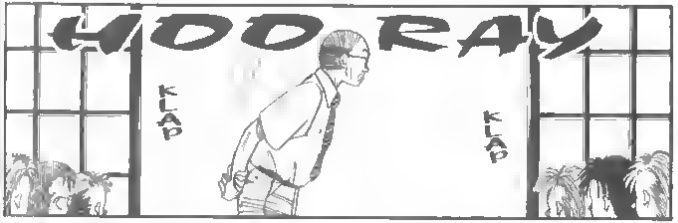

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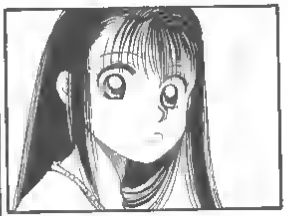
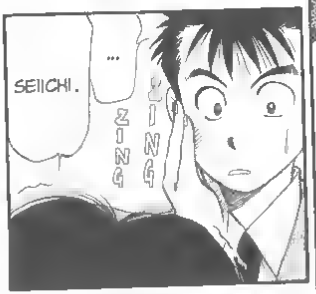
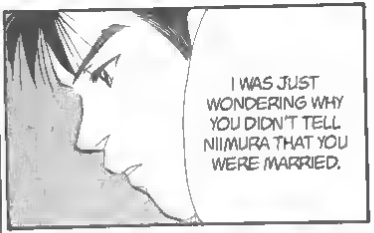
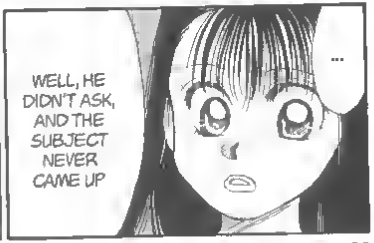


ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE ME JEALOUS?
OR ARE YOU HOPING TO BE MORE THAN JUST FRIENDS WITH NIIMURA? IT'S GOTTA BE ONE OR THE OTHER, RIGHT?!







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Chapter 53 / The End

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